NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending May 22, 1994

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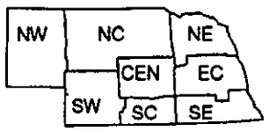
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
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WEATHER

The week was warm and relatively dry. Temperatures averaged six to thirteen degrees above normals. Only trace amounts of precipitation occurred across the State except in the northwest where they received up to .28 inch.

GENERAL

Planting activities remained in full swing last week due to continued open weather, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Some producers delayed planting due to dry soil conditions. Center pivots were in operation for one circle in some areas to help germinate seeds and activate chemicals. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated mostly short except in the central and southeast. Subsoil remains mostly adequate. Producer activities included planting crops, applying herbicides and fertilizer, and moving cattle to pastures.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated at 5% poor, 41% fair, 51% good, and 3% excellent. As of Sunday, 20% of the crop had headed. This was well ahead of last year at 6% but behind the five-year average at 34%. Reports from the western and southwestern districts indicate crop stress due to dry, windy conditions. Moisture would be welcomed in all areas of the State.

Corn planting was virtually complete by week's end. Some replanting was occurring due to poor germination from previous cool weather and some "crusting" in the northeast. Cultivating for weed control was in progress last week as well as chemical spraying. Plant emergence was rated at 69%, greatly helped by last week's warmer temperatures.

Soybean planting made excellent progress last week with 71% completed to date, compared with 14% last year and 37% for the average. Plant emergence was rated at 21%.

Sorghum planting was also in full swing with 50% planted by week's end. This compares with 9% last year and 30% for the average.

Dry bean planting was making a start with 2% complete to date.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 2% poor, 34% fair, 57% good, and 7% excellent. A few producers have begun first cutting activities. Alfalfa weevils have been observed in the south central and southeast districts. Wild hay condition was rated at 1% poor, 50% fair, 47% good, and 2% excellent.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 94% of normal and compares with 99% last year. Cattle continued to be moved to summer pastures. Warmer temperatures have helped pasture growth but moisture is needed to insure adequate grass growth.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 22, 1994	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn planted	100	99	100	100	100	99	100	99	100	91	70	88
% corn emerged	65	36	56	63	80	56	80	94	69	25	29	57
% sorghum planted	0	28	54	62	67	44	50	41	50	13	9	30
% soybeans planted	0	53	61	60	72	59	80	86	71	28	14	37
% soybeans emerged	0	5	7	32	21	9	10	40	21	0	1	12
% wheat jointed	92	100	97	92	97	100	99	98	96	82	100	97
% wheat headed	7	3	10	0	7	30	29	31	20	0	6	34
% dry beans planted	2	5	0	3	0	4	0	0	2	0	n/a	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 20, 1994												
Days suitable	6 4	6.3	6.2	6.7	6.1	6.7	6.3	5.1	6.2	6.3	5.3	
Topsoil moisture - Short	81	75	73	40	79	100	64	0	67	25	10	
(Percent) - Adequate	19	25	27	60	21	0	36	100	33	72	62	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	28	
Subsoil moisture - Short	31	0	4	0	0	30	0	0	7	3	3	
(Percent) - Adequate	69	100	96	100	87	70	100	100	91	94	76	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	2	3	21	

n/a = not available

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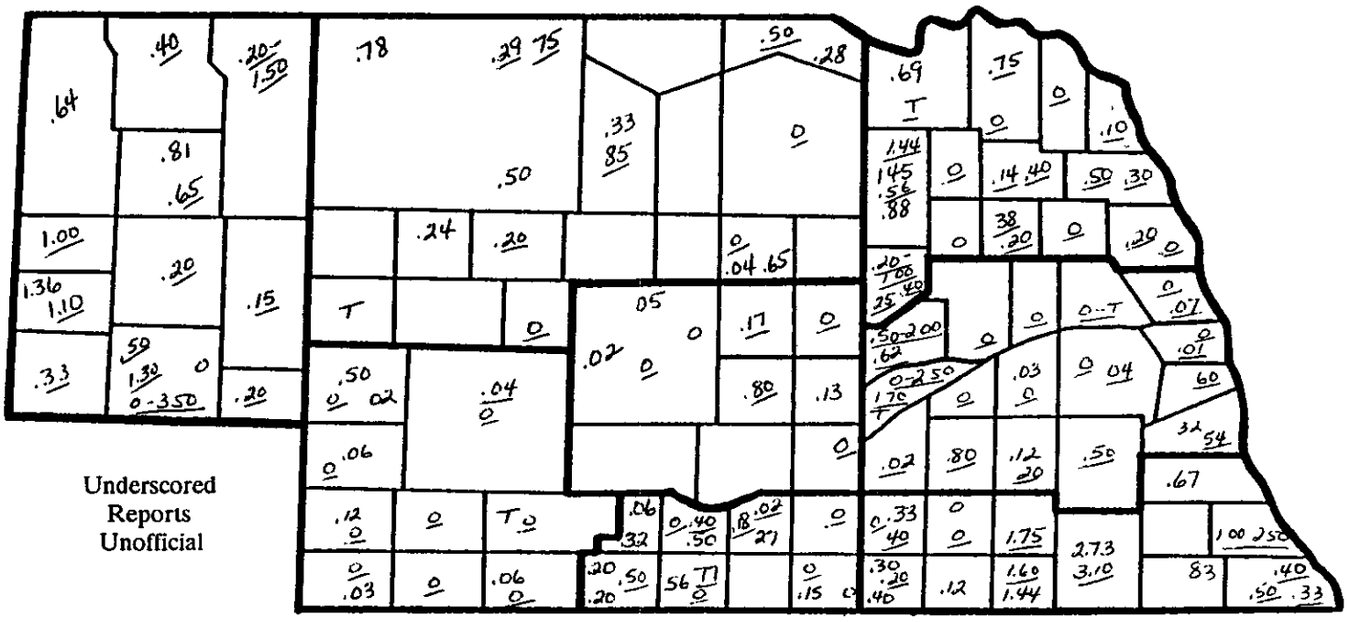
PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1994



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PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 20, 1994

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.82	.35	.76	.05	.12	.11	.25	.76
Total since April 1	1.89	2.39	3.46	3.52	3.52	2.19	3.26	5.12
Normal since April 1	3.73	4.31	4.91	4.71	5.38	3.77	4.43	5.34
Total as % of normal	51%	55%	70%	75%	65%	58%	74%	96%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 22, 1994

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	91	41	71	---	.09	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	91	47	70	+13	.28	336	469	319
	Sidney	90	42	69	---	.01	294	418	284
NC	Valentine	90	47	72	+13	0	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	291	425	279
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	273	413	328
NE	Norfolk	87	55	72	+10	T	---	---	---
	Sioux City	89	53	71	+8	T	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	281	418	348
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	277	425	322
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	302	449	345
CEN	Grand Island	88	54	71	+9	.02	---	---	---
	Ord	86	54	71	---	.07	298	439	346
	Wood River	---	---	---	---	---	287	437	366
EC	Lincoln	86	49	69	+6	T	324	476	384
	Omaha	89	49	70	+7	0	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	307	463	391
SW	Imperial	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	North Platte	85	49	70	+11	.15	296	438	339
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	324	474	384
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	310	446	366
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	314	450	398
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	316	454	387
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	302	446	370

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.